

***NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON DRINKING WATER RULES
STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
(DOCKET NO. R-4-00)***

The Department of Health (DOH) will receive written comments and hold a public hearing on proposed changes to Hawaii Administrative Rules, Chapter 11-25, Rules Relating to Certification of Public Water System Operators. The topics and general description of the proposed changes to Chapter 25 are to:

1. Add new requirements for certification of operators of public water system distribution systems and ground water treatment plants.
2. Add the new category of conditional certification for those operators in charge of a distribution system or a water treatment plant treating groundwater.
3. Allow provisional certification under certain conditions.
4. Add new requirements for the classification of distribution systems.
5. Change some certification and renewal procedures.

The proposed changes will directly affect present and potential certified operators and may indirectly affect the general public.

The public hearing will be held on Oahu on December 7, 2000, at 3:30 pm in Room 100 of 919 Ala Moana Blvd., Honolulu.

Persons desiring to speak are asked to submit two copies of their statement before or at the public hearing. Written statements will also be accepted until 4:30 pm on December 8, 2000, at the Safe Drinking Water Branch (SDWB) Oahu address noted below.

Copies of the proposed rules and documents explaining the proposed changes are available for review at the following locations:

O`AHU: SDWB, 919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 308, Honolulu, HI 96814-4920, phone 586-4258, contact Ann Zane.
KAUAI: DOH, District Health Office, 3040 Umi Street, Lihue, 96766, phone: 241-3323, contact Harold Eichelberger.
MAUI: DOH, District Health Office, 54 High Street, Wailuku, 96793, phone: 984-8234, contact Gordon Muraoka.
HAWAII: DOH, Environmental Health Facility, 1582 Kamehameha Ave., Hilo, 96720, phone 933-0401, contact Glenn Tomori.

INTERNET: <http://www.swat.state.hi.us> or www.state.hi.us/health

The proposed rules will also be mailed at no cost upon request. To obtain copies, call the Safe Drinking Water Branch at (808) 586-4258, write to its Oahu address above, or download the documents from the websites, stated above. Kauai residents may call the direct toll free number 274-3141 ext. 64258. Maui residents may call the direct toll free number 984-2400 ext. 64258. Big Island residents may call the direct toll free number 974-4000 ext. 64258. Molokai and Lanai residents may call toll free at 1-800-468-4644, ext. 64258.

For more information or if you have special needs due to disability, please contact Ann Zane of the Safe Drinking Water Branch at the above address or at (808) 586-4258 (voice) at least seven (7) days before the end of the public comment period or prior to the scheduled hearing.

SDWB MAKES PROGRESS IN THE ELECTRONIC AGE

STAFF COMPUTERS and NETWORK

In 1995, when I first began working for the Safe Drinking Water Branch, there were a set of 5-6 computers that were lined up in two rows that had to be shared by all program staff. These computers were used for drafting correspondence, scheduling and preparing sampling forms and materials, and for managing program databases. In 1996, the process of establishing computers for each staff was initiated. This process continues today due to the program's increasing workload and workforce.

In 1999, after several years of discussion and several technical difficulties, the Safe Drinking Water Branch was finally connected to the Division network. This connection has allowed the program to better communicate with the outside world and within our own offices through the wonderful world of e-mail.

To contact Safe Drinking Water Branch staff by e-mail, the address is: first_initial-last_name@eha.health.state.hi.us
(Example: Bill Wong -----> bwong@eha.health.state.hi.us)

SDWB WEBSITE

In 1997, the Safe Drinking Water Branch with the assistance of the Department of Health's Communication Office, attempted to get the Safe Drinking Water website off the ground. After several stalled attempts due to lack of proper technology and an increase in workload and other priorities, we have once again been able to jump start our efforts. In October 2000, we were finally able to load the Safe Drinking Water Branch newsletter, "The Water Spot/The Water Spot 2000" for the years 1999 and 2000 onto the website. To date, the Safe Drinking Water Branch website contains: program functions, regulations, newsletters, groundwater contamination maps, underground injection control boundary maps, and other drinking water information.

Visit the Safe Drinking Water Branch website at: <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/eh/sdwb>

Visit the Hawaii Source Water Assessment Program website at: <http://www.aloha.net/~will/hiswap.html>

GIS/GPS

Hawaii's drinking water sources are being located by using Global Positioning System (GPS) technology. The information collected will be imported to the Safe Drinking Water Branch's Geographic Information System (GIS) and used in identifying source water assessment areas, drinking water sources at risk of contamination, locating sampling sites, and other mapping activities,

The locational data will also be reported to the United States Environmental Protection Agency as required under the Safe Drinking Water Information System requirements and the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation Partnership Agreement.

At right: John Topliss, Monitoring Section, collects GPS readings at a drinking water source in East Hawaii.



DATA MANAGEMENT

Management of drinking water program data has been done over the years by various staff. In recent years, the chemical monitoring data (those analyzed by the Department of Health) have been entered and maintained in a database by the Safe Drinking Water Branch. Data from this database have been used in providing monitoring data to public water systems for use in the annual consumer confidence report. Data have also been reported to EPA and used to meet various data requests.

BACTI SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS

Article provided by Myron Honda of the Environmental Microbiology Section, State Laboratories Division

The laboratories that analyze drinking water for compliance purposes are certified to do so by the State. These laboratories must follow stringent guidelines to be certified. The State Certification Officers also inspect them on a regular basis. They must keep accurate records and must demonstrate their proficiency by correctly analyzing performance evaluation samples. These are unknown samples that may or may not contain the regulated contaminant; for microbiology, these are coliform bacteria. These laboratories follow EPA and State specified parameters in order to produce valid and defensible data. However, these laboratories rely on the quality and integrity of the samples that they receive. As qualified as these laboratories are, the data produced by the laboratory are only as good as the samples that are submitted.

The samplers are the only people who can verify the information on the sample form. Are the samples being collected from the correct sites? Are they being collected on the correct date? What time are they being collected? What is the chlorine residual? Was the sample in the custody of the sampler up until the point that it is safely in the laboratory? Were sufficient number of samples collected? Because the sampler plays such a vital role in the monitoring process, the information collected by the sampler must be accurately communicated to the laboratory. It is for this reason that the samplers are reminded of the following points.

Samples that are submitted for heterotrophic plate count (HPC) analysis must be processed within eight hours of collection. This includes the actual processing time in the laboratory. Therefore, the samplers must collect these samples and transport them to the laboratory within six hours to ensure that the laboratory has sufficient processing time. If the samples are not received in the laboratory within this six-hour timeframe, the samples may be invalid for HPC analysis due to insufficient processing time. Samples that are submitted to the Department of Health (DOH) laboratory eight or more hours after collection will not be tested for HPC and will be identified by a notation on the final report form indicating that the eight hour time limit has been exceeded. All other samples (for coliform analysis) must be submitted to the laboratory as soon as possible. The DOH laboratory will accept samples between the hours of 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

The sampler is responsible for insuring that the sample form is correctly and completely filled out. The sampler must fill out or ensure the following information on the pre-printed form is correct:

1. Sample Location ID# and Water System Name (on the adhesive label of the form)
2. Sample Location
3. Collection Date
4. Type of Sample: Routine, etc.

The sampler must fill out the following:

5. Sampler
6. Collection Time
7. Chlorine Residual
8. Any collection remarks, if applicable
9. Type of sample, if other than Routine: Replacement (including date for which the sample is being replaced) or Repeat (including the corresponding number of the repeat, the sample ID and date of the original routine sample).
10. Relinquished by and Date and Time.

If someone other than the sampler is transporting the sample to the laboratory, that person must fill out the following:

11. Received by and Date and Time.
12. Relinquished by and Date and Time.

It is important that the sampler ensure the sample form is properly filled out because an improper or incomplete form may lead to an invalid sample. Items 1 through 4 should be filled out prior to sampling. Items 5 to 9 should be filled out immediately after collection. Items 10 and 12 are to be filled in at the laboratory. If a courier is used to deliver the samples to the laboratory, item 11 must be filled out upon transfer of the sample from the sampler to the courier. Note that the DOH form includes a chain of custody.

This form may be used for legal purposes and therefore must be filled out accurately by the respective people. This means that the courier cannot sign for the sampler. Nor can the courier fill in any sampling information (items 1-10 above) or make any changes to what has been written by the sampler. Samples that are invalidated will need to be re-collected and re-submitted, possibly to a private laboratory. Because of the necessity to document all activities, including the appropriate dates and times, the information on the form must be accurate. The DOH sample form must accompany all samples that are delivered to the DOH laboratory. The laboratory may reject a sample whose form is improperly filled out or is incomplete.

The sampler must affix the adhesive label to the sample immediately after collection to ensure that there are no mix-ups on the samples.

If there is only one sample, one TC must accompany the sample (collected consecutively from the same site). If more than one sample is submitted, two TC's must be submitted: one collected with the first sample and another collected with the last sample. If no TC's are submitted, the laboratory may reject the sample. All samples should be stored in a cooler with ice after collection. Ideally, the sample should be received in the laboratory at 10°C or less (but not frozen); however, this may not apply if there is a short transport time to the laboratory. Samples should be placed in plastic bags to ensure that water from the melted ice does not enter the sample bottles/containers (this does not apply if coolants such as blue ice are used).

The laboratory takes certain measures to ensure that the data produced is credible and accurate. The sampler must also take the appropriate steps to ensure that the sample that is submitted to the laboratory accurately reflects the water going through the distribution system; after all, the data produced by the laboratory is only as good as the sample that is submitted.

HPC currently run on the following systems:

239	Kalaupapa
309	Waialua Sugar P2
320	Mililani Memorial (required)
325	Hawaii Reserves
326	Mokuleia
327	Kahana State Park
348	Waiawa Correctional (required)

Systems which have samples delivered to DOH laboratory by person other than sampler:

237	Lanai
238	Lanai
239	Kalaupapa
309	Waialua Sugar P2
312	Queen's Medical Center
315	Campbell Estates
316	Campbell Estates
325	Hawaii Reserves

USEPA - DEPARTMENT OF PESTICIDE PROGRAMS PUBLISH PROPOSED RULE TO RESTRICT USE OF CHLORINE GAS IN WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS

On September 18, 2000, the USEPA - Pesticide Programs published a proposed rule that identifies the use of chlorine gas in water and wastewater treatment plants as a restricted use. This change in classification/designation to a "restricted use" will result in changes in the labelling of chlorine gas and would require operators to receive certified applicator training for chlorine. Under this proposal, one certified applicator will need to be present during all operations involving chlorine gas. This proposed rule is a revision of a proposed rule originally dated March 10, 1999.

Copies of this proposed rule and other related documents may be obtained from: the EPA Internet homepage at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>. To access information related to chlorine gas go to <http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/REDs/> and select the documents listed under chlorine gas.

HAWAII WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION (HWWA) TO HOLD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 39th Annual Hawaii Water Works Association Conference will be held at the beautiful Westin Maui Prince Hotel in Makena, November 15 through 17, 2000, and you are cordially invited to attend.

The theme of this year's conference is "Hawaii's Flow for the Future." This reflects the changes occurring in all areas of the water supply industry. The theme also recognizes the important role of staff and management in keeping water flowing now and in the future. The first day's workshop will focus on the latest technology and product updates and will feature Colorado speaker Kim Woods who will talk about values in the workplace; the second day will consist of panel discussions on various water utility topics; and the last day will include a lively discussion on stream flow restoration. Friday's schedule also includes a field trip to Haleakala, a golf tournament, a tennis tournament, and a picnic.

If you have any questions, please contact Jacky Takakura at (808) 270-8046 or at jacky.takakura@co.maui.hi.us.

SDWB AWARDS TWO MORE DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (DWSRF) LOANS

The Safe Drinking Water Branch (SDWB) has awarded two more Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loans. Loans have been awarded to the Hawaii Department of Water Supply and the Kauai Department of Water Supply. The Hawaii Department of Water Supply will use its award of **\$739,210.00** to finance upgrades to its Waimea Treatment Plan, while the Kauai Department of Water Supply will utilize its award of **\$1,755,329.00** to fund damage repair to its Kokolau Tunnel water source. These awards now bring the total loans to water systems to **\$9,808,681.00**.

DOES YOUR SYSTEM NEED IMPROVEMENT? TIME TO SUBMIT NEW DWSRF PROJECTS

The SDWB will now be accepting "**Proposed Project for DWSRF Funding**" forms until **January 20, 2001**. All non-federally owned public water systems are eligible for DWSRF funding. Because of the lead-time necessary to fulfill all of the federal requirements, such as public review and comment, **ALL submittals must be received by the SDWB or postmarked by January 20, 2001**.

We encourage everyone to submit forms for qualified construction projects, which you are interested in funding over the next five years. Having your project on the priority list early will allow you to qualify for funding at the time that you need it. Extra consideration will also be given to "small public water systems" (service population less than 10,000).

Please complete one form for each project you wish to be considered. If your project was on a previous priority list, you may reaffirm your interest in receiving an SRF loan by writing to the SDWB or simply resubmit the form with any updated information.

Please note that a submitted project form and inclusion of the project on the Priority List will not guarantee the issuance of a loan. Qualifying for a loan will depend upon a number of factors including, but not limited to, the water system's ability to repay the loan. Also, EPA prohibits loans to be given to any public water system that does not have adequate technical, financial, and managerial capacity to comply with National Primary Drinking Water Regulations.

Unfortunately, the DWSRF program is currently not prepared to issue loans to privately owned, public water systems. However, we encourage privately owned, public water systems to submit projects to be accepted and included on the priority list, as it is our intent to develop procedures that will allow all eligible water systems to apply for DWSRF assistance. In addition, listing all proposed projects will help document the need for continued and increased funding of the DWSRF program.

We look forward to receiving your completed "Proposed Project for DWSRF Funding" form(s) and working with you to address any drinking water compliance problems. If you have any questions, concerns or require assistance, please contact Denise Dang at 586-4258.

A copy of the "Proposed Project for DWSRF Funding" form has been included in this newsletter.

PROPOSED PROJECT FOR DWSRF FUNDING

Project Title: _____

Project Description: _____

Please enter the figures for the following activities eligible under the DWSRF that you wish to finance:

Planning:	Estimated Cost: \$ _____	Projected Starting Date: _____
Design:	Estimated Cost: \$ _____	Projected Starting Date: _____
Construction:	Estimated Cost: \$ _____	Projected Starting Date: _____

Public Water System No. _____

System Name: _____

County: _____

Total Population Served by System: _____

The Census information on the right must be obtained from the most recent Federal Census summary of social, economic, and housing characteristics for the water system or area benefiting from the project:

Census Designated Place

or CDP: _____

Median Household Income: _____

Percent of Families
with income below poverty level: _____ %*Check the appropriate line(s) which best describes the proposed project:*Project Type:Project Level:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> T1. Address acute health effects (Surface Water Treatment Rule, Total Coliform Rule, Nitrate standard). | <input type="checkbox"/> L1. Potable Water source. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T2. Address chronic health effects (Lead and Copper Rule, Phases I, II, and V Rules, etc.). | <input type="checkbox"/> L2. Water treatment facility. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T3. Consolidation of water systems. | <input type="checkbox"/> L3. Distribution and transmission systems. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T4. Address other concerns. | <input type="checkbox"/> L4. Storage facilities. |

Project Function:

- ☐ F1. Build a new treatment facility.
- ☐ F2. Upgrade or replace treatment facilities to improve drinking water quality by preventing contaminants from entering the system.
- ☐ F3. Develop source to replace existing, contaminated source of drinking water.
- ☐ F4. Upgrade or replace storage, distribution and transmission facilities to prevent contaminants from entering the system.
- ☐ F5. Consolidate systems with insufficient technical, managerial, and financial capability to maintain compliance with drinking water regulations.

Additional Comments: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone Number: _____

email address: _____ Fax Number: _____

SDWB and EPA TO CONDUCT WORKSHOP ON NEW DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS

The Safe Drinking Water Branch and the Environmental Protection Agency will jointly conduct a workshop on new drinking water regulations. The workshop sponsored by the Hawaii AWWA will be held on December 12-13, 2000 on Kauai. The workshop, titled, **“Microbes, Disinfectants, and Disinfection Byproducts in Water Systems -New requirements, and strategies to meet the new requirements for water systems”** is intended as a practical, operator focused workshop to meet some of the challenges pointed out in EPA’s proposed Ground Water Rule (GWR) as well as other new rules related to disinfectants, and disinfection byproducts, for both groundwater and surface water systems. The participants will learn the science and reasons behind how these rules were developed; the basic requirements of the rules; and, they will discuss actual case studies where some of the draft GWR requirements have been applied. There will be practical problems for the participants to solve in groups, learning some of the details of how to apply the proposed requirements. The instructors will present a mechanism that will help ground water system operators ensure compliance with the new rules and further levels of treatment, allowing for greater health protection through operations.

Why you should attend: Some of the larger water systems have been considering their approaches to comply with these rules for some time. For many smaller systems, the details of what will be expected may still not be known. Further, while understanding the regulatory reasoning behind the development of rule is necessary, it is also essential that systems be able to successfully do what is required under the rules. We believe that knowledgeable and appropriately skilled staff and managers will ensure that the enhanced health protection promised from these rules actually takes place. This is particularly important for smaller water systems that may not have many staff trained in the detailed operations necessary for compliance. These systems will have to get staff prepared for these requirements or seek help from outside consultants. This workshop is designed to inform operators, managers, and consultants, about some of the specific tasks that will have to be done under the new rules.

This workshop is open to anyone with an interest in these regulations. The primary audience for this workshop is staff and management from groundwater systems. It should also be useful to those from both large and small surface water systems, consultants, and other state agencies. For more information or to register for this workshop, please contact Jacky Takakura at (808) 270-8046 or via fax at (808) 270-7951 or email at jacky.takakura@co.maui.hi.us.

SDWB BEGINS PROCESS OF UPDATING THE EMERGENCY PLAN FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

In 1981, Chapter 19, Emergency Plan for Safe Drinking Water was created. Chapter 19 requires all public water systems to have an emergency plan for safe drinking water in cases of emergencies such as natural disasters.

We are now beginning the process of updating Chapter 19 and the associated contact list, as well as updating our records of public water systems which have valid emergency plans. To assist us in updating our records of valid emergency plans, we recently sent out a questionnaire to all public water systems. If you have not yet replied to the questionnaire, we request that you do so by December 5, 2000. If you have not received the questionnaire or if you have misplaced the questionnaire, please contact the Safe Drinking Water Branch at (808) 586-4258 or call toll-free from the neighbor islands by calling 974-4000, ext. 64258 from Hawaii, 274-3141, ext. 64258 from Kauai, 984-2400, ext. 64258 from Maui, or 1-800-468-4644, ext. 64258 from Molokai or Lanai.

SAFE DRINKING WATER BRANCH TELEPHONE NUMBERS

	<u>Telephone Number</u>	<u>FAX Number</u>	<u>Toll-free Number to reach Honolulu Office</u>
HONOLULU:	586-4258	586-4370	-----
KAUAI:	241-3323	241-3566	274-3141, ext. 64258
MAUI:	984-8234	984-8222	984-2400, ext. 64258
WEST HAWAII:	322-1507	322-1511	974-4000, ext. 64258
EAST HAWAII:	933-0401	933-0400	974-4000, ext. 64258
MOLOKAI/LANAI:	-----	-----	1-800-468-4644, ext. 64258

The Water Spot 2000 is published by the Safe Drinking Water Branch, Environmental Management Division of the Hawai'i State Department of Health and is distributed to water purveyors, water system operators, staff, consultants, and other interested parties.

*The Water Spot 2000 may also be viewed on the Safe Drinking Water Branch's web site at:
<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/eh/sdwb>*

Please send your suggestions, ideas, questions or comments to:

THE WATER SPOT 2000
Safe Drinking Water Branch
State Department of Health
919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 308
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

OR

Fax us at (808) 586-4370, Attn: "THE WATER SPOT 2000"

SDWB WEB SITE:

<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/eh/sdwb>

HISWAP WEB SITE:

<http://www.aloha.net/~will/hiswap.html>



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Governor of Hawaii

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Director of Health

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Environmental Health

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